

GLYNCORRWG URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL (1966-67) - Councillor G.G. Davies, J.P.
 VICE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL (1966-67) - Councillor Morley B. Williams.

MEMBERS

Councillor W.I. Collins, Blaengwynfi.	Councillor T. Williams, J.P.; Cymmer.
" I. Davies, Blaengwynfi.	" G.J. Miles, Cymmer.
" J. Jones, Blaengwynfi.	" V. Harries, Cymmer.
" I. Griffiths, Blaengwynfi.	" E. Lewis, Cymmer.
" B.D. Morgan, Abergwynfi.	" A. Leonard, Glynccorrgw.
" W.A.M. Pinkham, Cymmer.	" O.E. Morgan, Glynccorrgw.
" T. Evans, Cymmer.	" Dr. J.T. Hart, M.B., D.C.H. Glynccorrgw.

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

General Purposes Committee	- Councillor J.G. Miles.
Housing Committee	- Councillor T. Evans.
Finance Committee	- Councillor B.D. Morgan.

OFFICERS

Clerk/Engineer and Surveyor	- Mr. Tudor J. Walker, M.B.E., F.R.I.C.S., M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., F.I.A.S.,
Medical Officer of Health	- Dr. D.H.J. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., also Medical Officer of Health, Port Talbot Borough and Divisional Medical Officer - Glamorgan County Council.
Treasurer	- Mr. L.N. Jenkins, F.I.M.T.A., A.C.I.S.
Public Health Inspector	- Mr. G.A. Mahoney, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Deputy Surveyor	- Mr. B. Alford. A.F.S.,
Assistant Surveyor and Engineer	- Mr. J. Jenkins.
Engineering Assistant	- Mr. D. James.
Chief Clerk	- Mr. P. Evans.
Chief Finance Clerk	- Mr. R. Dayson.
Accountancy Assistant	- Mr. A.M. Evans.
Accounts General Clerk	- Mr. C. Osborne.
Cashier	- Mr. R. Eckett.
Wages Clerk	- Mr. M. Watkins.
Senior Housing Collector	- Mr. R. Blackmore.
Housing Collector	- Mr. J. Atyeo.
Housing Collector	- Mr. A. Thomas.
Works Superintendent	- Mr. L. Thomas. O.N.C., C.G.L.I.
Clerk of Works	- Mr. L. Edmunds.
Store Keeper	- Mr. E. Hughes.
Pupil Surveyor	- Mr. M. Abraham.
Pupil Public Health Inspector	- Mr. D.E. Parfitt.

Pupil Administrative Officer	- Mr. G. Ball.
Minute Clerk and Shorthand/Typist	- Mrs. B. Williams.
Clerk/Shorthand - Typist	- Mrs. J. Coutanche.
Shorthand Typist/General Clerk	- Miss C. Evans.
Shorthand Typist/General Clerk	- Mrs. M. Bevan. (Terminated employment July, 1966)
Shorthand Typist/General Clerk	- Miss A. Davies (Commenced employment August, 1966)

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1966.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Glyncorrwg Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to present for your consideration the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1966. As members will be aware there is a statutory requirement upon the Medical Officer of Health to compile and present an Annual Report affecting the Health and Welfare of the population in the area. The report is prepared in accordance with Circular 1/67 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health.

During the early part of 1966, your Medical Officer of Health was unfortunately indisposed and underwent a major operation but happily, through the skill and care of Surgeons, Nurses and ancillaries made a good recovery and was able to resume his duties towards the end of March. I would like to express my very grateful thanks to all my colleagues on the Council, Members and staff who visited me both in hospital and at home and who expressed themselves in such a kind manner. I may state with confident sincerity that the loyal support of all my colleagues in the Public Health Department did not go un-noticed.

Having had a "taste of the stick", as it were, one looks at the Vital Statistics affecting the health of the people with a more piercing eye. One examines - perhaps even more closely - the provisions being made for the care and wellbeing of the population at large, and more especially those who are ill or afflicted in one way or another.

To prevent sickness and maintain good health is an important part of the service of your Public Health Department and to this end certain actions and constant vigilance is called for.

It is the responsibility of the Authority to ensure that the population receives a potable, pure and wholesome supply of drinking water. Although in October the physical responsibility for this was transferred from your direct control to that of the newly formed West Glamorgan Water Board, I shall as your Medical Officer of Health continue to monitor the supply both bacteriologically and chemically. I am pleased to be able to report that a cordial working arrangement has been effected between my department and that of the Water Board. A reciprocal arrangement for the sharing of sampling results has been effected and your officers are in direct communication with the Engineer and staff of the Water Undertaking as and when necessary.

As members are aware, the upland catchment areas of acid peat lead to plumbo solvency and the use of lead pipes is not permitted in the area.

I carried out an investigation into the occurrence of fluoride in the natural water a year or two ago and became very excited when the supply from the East Level, Abergwynfi yielded 0.1 part per million Fluoride. An examination was carried out of the teeth of all the children in the area supplied by water from East Level but unfortunately the concentration of natural fluoride was not high enough to protect the children's teeth.

The exercise, however, did indicate the ugly fact that there is a high degree of dental caries amongst the child population in the Urban District. It is to be regretted that shortage of dental staff in the School Health Service of the County Council does not allow more scope for work in this field.

It is a source of great worry and dismay to me as your Medical Officer of Health to see certain areas of the Urban District being allowed by certain owners through lack of foresight, funds, indifference or lack of suitable workmen to fall into a state of extensive decay. I do not need to refer to Alban Terrace, Hopkins Terrace and Prossers Terrace in Abercregan, part of Norton Terrace in Glyncoirwg, Tunnel Terrace and Gwynfi Street in Blaengwynfi, for these areas are known to members of Council. I personally believe that as far as Abercregan and Blaengwynfi are concerned the only hope of salvation is Comprehensive re-development. The owners have not yet shown any positive inclination in this direction so it remains to the Council to act.

The year 1966 saw work being undertaken towards the provision of new clinic facilities in the village of Glyncoirwg. When the Ambulance Garage and Driver's Rest Room became redundant with the reorganisation of the Ambulance Service in the area, the opportunity presented itself to develop clinic facilities on the site and when an approach was made to the local General Practitioner, he readily came in with us and the idea of a small Health Centre was born. As your Medical Officer, I am proud to have played a part in the establishment in Glyncoirwg of the first Health Centre in Glamorgan. The people deserve good premises built for the purpose where their needs can be met and I was very happy when in the Spring of 1967 the local General Practitioner came to work and serve his patients in our premises. I hope that this is but the first step in closer cooperation between the Local Authority Services and those provided by the Executive Council.

In the body of the report I have presented the Vital Statistics for the Urban District and in the second half of the Report incorporated the usual valuable contribution on the sanitary circumstances in the area. I am indebted to Mr. G.A. Mahoney and to Mr. David Parfitt for their contributions. Mr. Mahoney left the service of the Authority at the end of the year to take up the post of Public Health Inspector/Surveyor to the Cwmnamman Urban District Council. Mr. David Parfitt continues as Student Public Health Inspector and is doing well both on the district and with his academic studies. I am grateful to both for their loyalty during the period under review.

Finally, I would like to re-iterate my thanks to all members of Council - and to my colleagues on the staff for their help and support during the period under review.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

D.H.J. WILLIAMS.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Park House,
Theodore Road,
PORT TALBOT.

Tel. No. Port Talbot 2137/8.

Councillor G.G. Davies - at the end of his year as Chairman of the Council presented a factual report on the work carried out by Council during his term of office and he has kindly agreed to this being incorporated into the body of this Annual Report.

VITAL STATISTICS

1. POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Urban District is shown below and for comparison purposes, that for certain preceding and census years is also appended.

For the year 1966	the estimated population was	9,460
" " " 1965	" " " "	9,510
" " " 1964	" " " "	9,470
" " " 1963	" " " "	9,440
" " " 1962	" " " "	9,440
" " " 1961	" " " "	9,930
" " " 1960	" " " "	10,040
" " " 1959	" " " "	10,030
" " " 1958	" " " "	9,900
" " " 1957	" " " "	9,750
" " " 1956	" " " "	9,660
" " " 1955	" " " "	9,560
" " " 1954	" " " "	9,550
" " " 1953	" " " "	9,490
" " " 1951	" census	9,236
" " " 1931	" " "	10,208
" " " 1921	" " "	10,772
" " " 1911	" " "	8,689
" " " 1901	" " "	6,452

The rateable value of the area on the 31st March, 1966 was as follows:-

General Rate Purposes.....	£148,818
Sum represented by 1d. Rate.....	£595

2. BIRTHS

During 1966, 191 live births were credited to the Urban District of which 96 were males and 95 were females. There were 6 stillbirths.

The birth rate was 20.19 per 1000 population and this compares with 20.51 for the previous year. For the whole of England and Wales the birth rate was 17.7.

The following table is of interest:-

Number of live births at home in the area.....	52
Number of live births at Neath General Hospital.....	129
Number of live births in Maesteg General Hospital and Bridgend General Hospital.....	10

From this table it will be seen that 139 live births took place in hospital as compared with 52 on the district. This is the reflection of today's trend for a desire for hospitalisation for confinement. All applications for non-emergency admission to hospital are screened by your Medical Officer in his capacity of Divisional Medical Officer for the Port Talbot and Glyncofrwg Health Division and consideration is given to obstetric and environmental problems in determining the hospital allocations. The family doctor's views are always given priority consideration in assessing the need for hospital confinement.

3. DEATHS.

Deaths from all causes in the area:

Males - 60 Females - 45 105

Death rate per 1000 of estimated resident population

Crude - 11.10 Adjusted - 16.67

Death rate for England and Wales adjusted 11.7

The following table shows the death rates in recent years:

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Crude	11.10	11.78	8.87	11.86	9.75	13.19	8.67	11.37	10.67	10.97	11.08
Adjusted	16.67	17.32	13.48	18.03	13.94	18.80	12.40	16.26	15.25	15.69	

4. MATERNAL MORTALITY

No mother died from puerperal causes during 1966.

5. INFANT MORTALITY

Whilst the infant mortality rate for the whole of England and Wales was 19.00 that for the Urban District was 41.88 and this was occasioned by the failure of 8 infants to reach their first birthday.

Comparative figures for the past ten years are given below:

1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
41.88	44.78	37.21	51.89	31.91	38.10	20.73	52.91	34.15	28.30

Table 4 gives analysis of the causes of death.

6. DEATHS (all ages)

The main causes of death in the area during 1966 were:

- (a) Cardiovascular conditions 27
- (b) Cancers of various kinds 25
- (c) Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis & Cancer)..... 18
- (d) Vascular lesions of the nervous system 17
- (e) Accidents 4

Of the 27 deaths attributed to cardiovascular conditions, 23,(15 males, 8 females) were due to coronary disease.

TABLE 1

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT FOR 1966

These statistics have been confirmed by the Registrar General.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	183	92	91
Illegitimate	8	4	4

Crude birth rate per 1000 population - 20.19

Adjusted birth rate per 1000 population. - 19.58

Illegitimate live births per cent total live births - 4.19

<u>Stillbirths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	6	4	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total births - 30.46

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
	105	60	45

Crude death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population - 11.10
Adjusted " " " " " " " " " " - 16.67

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

Number of deaths under 1 year of age - 8

Death rate of infants under 1 year or age:

All infants per 1000 live births.....	41.88
Legitimate infants per 1000 live legitimate births.....	41.88
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil

TABLE 2

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF INFANTS' DEATHS DURING 1966

Neonatal Deaths - 6 Neonatal Death Rate: 31.41 per thousand live births.

CERTIFIED CAUSE OF DEATH:	<u>One Day</u>	<u>One week</u>
	<u>One week</u>	<u>One month</u>
Asphyxia by suffocation from bedding	-	1
Acute pneumonia	-	1
Dorsal meningomyelocele with meningitis	-	1
Hydrops foetalis Rhesus incompatibility	1	-
Prematurity	1	-
Prematurity Respiratory distress syndrome	1	-
Total	3	3

TABLE 3

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases during 1966:

	<u>PULMONARY</u>		<u>NON-PULMONARY</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
Over 1 year and under 5 years	-	-	-	-
Over 5 years and under 10 years	-	-	-	-
Over 10 years and under 15 years	-	-	-	-
Over 15 years and under 20 years	-	-	-	-
Over 20 years and under 25 years	-	-	-	1
Over 25 years and under 35 years	-	-	-	1
over 35 years and under 45 years	-	-	-	-
Over 45 years and under 55 years	1	-	-	-
Over 55 years and under 65 years	-	-	-	1
Over 65 years and under 75 years	-	-	-	-
Over 75 years	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	1	-	-	3

Below I append the notification state at the beginning and end of 1966 for comparison purposes:-

TUBERCULOSIS:

INCIDENCE AND DOMICILIARY CARE.

		<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Number of cases on Register 1st January, 1966	Pulmonary	24	21
	Non-Pulmonary	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
	Total	<u>26</u>	<u>22</u>
Number of cases - 31st December 1966	Pulmonary	24	15
	Non-Pulmonary	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
	Total	<u>26</u>	<u>18</u>
Total cases on 1st January 1966		-	48
Total cases on 31st December 1966		-	44

Number removed from the Register as follows:-

Number left district	-	1
Number died	-	1
Number recovered	-	8
Change of diagnosis	-	-

Number added to Register as follows:-

Number of new notifications	-	4
Number of in-transfers	-	1
Restored to Register	-	1

Cases not formally notified (taken from Registrar's returns) - NIL

As a result of representations by one of the General Practitioners and by agreement with the Consultant Chest Physicians at the Neath and Bridgend Chest Clinics new cases of suspected tuberculosis are now being sent to the Neath Chest Clinic for screening and diagnosis, old cases who are still under surveillance continuing to attend at Bridgend as formerly. Ultimately it is hoped that all cases will attend at Neath Chest Clinic which is both nearer and more easily accessible to the residents of the area.

During the transition period which is necessarily protracted in respect of tuberculosis extra vigilance is necessary to ensure that proper and uninterrupted surveillance is maintained. To this end the Health Visitors who are in intimate contact with all families keep me closely informed of the progress of their cases at the same time keeping the family doctor in the picture as well.

TABLE 4.

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1966.

(As recorded by Registrar General)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory.....	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, Non-Respiratory.....	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease.....	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.....	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections.....	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic disease.....	-	-
10. Malignant, neoplasm, stomach.....	1	1
11. Malignant, neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	5	1
12. Malignant, neoplasm, breast.....	-	1
13. Malignant, neoplasm, uterus.....	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	7	7
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	10	7
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	15	8
19. Hypertension, with heart disease.....	-	-
20. Other heart disease.....	2	2
21. Other circulatory disease.....	3	-
22. Influenza.....	2	-
23. Pneumonia.....	1	4
24. Bronchitis.....	4	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.....	3	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	4	6
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-
34. All other accidents.....	2	1
35. Suicide.....	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-
ALL CAUSES.....	60	45

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY) VITAL STATISTICS, 1966

	Estimated Population 1966	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT Deaths under 1 year	MORTALITY PERI-NATAL		MORTALITY
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 population Crude Adjusted	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population Crude Adjusted		Rate per 1,000 live births	Stillbirths and deaths under one week	Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths
England and Wales	48075300								
Administrative County	764000	12804	16.76 17.10	9401	12.30 13.90	271	21.17	396	30.38
Urban Districts	526040	8687	16.51 17.01	6631	12.61 14.38	192	22.10	282	31.86
Rural Districts	237960	4117	17.30 17.47	2770	11.64 12.57	79	19.19	114	27.25
Aberdare Urban	38700	606	15.66 17.07	582	15.04 15.34	15	24.75	26	41.87
Mountain Ash Urban	29300	509	17.37 17.37	372	12.70 15.24	15	29.47	18	34.62
Caerphilly Urban	38040	814	21.40 20.97	430	11.30 14.13	25	30.71	34	41.06
Gelligaer Urban	35000	658	18.80 18.80	413	11.80 15.34	13	19.76	23	34.28
Bridgend Urban	15100	231	15.30 15.76	181	11.99 13.19	3	12.99	7	29.79
Maesteg Urban	21430	353	16.47 17.13	261	12.18 14.86	5	14.16	10	27.70
Ogmore & Garry Urban	20670	320	15.48 15.94	261	12.63 15.41	9	28.13	13	39.88
Porthcawl Urban	12540	248	19.78 22.15	168	13.40 11.52	5	20.16	3	8.03
Penybont Rural	46650	990	21.22 20.37	599	12.84 12.33	23	23.23	25	25.00
Neath M.B.	30200	450	14.90 15.50	404	13.38 14.45	6	13.33	11	24.07
Neath Rural	40910	628	15.35 15.96	456	11.15 13.49	15	23.89	28	43.55
Llantrisant Rural	29500	581	19.69 18.71	288	9.76 12.49	15	25.82	20	33.73
Pontypridd Urban	35090	555	15.82 16.14	433	12.34 12.83	11	19.82	16	28.32
Glyncoed Urban	9460	191	20.19 19.58	105	11.10 16.67	8	41.88	9	45.68
Port Talbot M.B.	51800	792	15.29 15.14	586	11.31 15.38	14	17.68	24	29.70
Barry M.B.	42430	702	16.54 17.04	489	11.52 12.67	12	17.09	18	25.28
Cardiff Rural	54410	883	16.23 15.74	680	12.50 12.00	8	9.06	17	18.97
Cowbridge M.B.	1140	21	18.42 18.60	13	11.40 12.20	-	-	-	-
Cowbridge Rural	21260	374	17.59 18.82	165	7.76 12.80	8	21.39	9	23.56
Penarth Urban	21950	395	18.00 19.44	297	13.53 12.58	7	17.72	12	29.85
Gower Rural	15100	257	17.02 18.38	165	10.93 10.93	4	15.56	6	22.99
Llanchwyr Urban	25470	497	19.51 20.88	322	12.64 13.78	8	16.10	8	16.00
Pontardawe Rural	30130	414	13.74 15.53	417	13.84 14.26	6	14.49	11	26.13
Rhondda Municipal Borough	97720	1445	14.79 15.23	1314	13.45 15.33	36	24.91	51	34.51

LOCAL AND SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE ACTIVITIES - 1966

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

During the year, a total of 530 children attended the Infant Welfare Clinics in Abercregan, Cymmer, Duffryn, Blaengwynfi, Glyncorrwg and Croeserw. Total attendances by children born during 1966 were 1201; there were 1323 attendances by children born during 1965 and other children under five years of age attended clinics on 1132 occasions during the year.

In addition to advice and guidance to mothers; immunisation against diphtheria/whooping cough/tetanus and vaccination against smallpox and polio were available to infants at these clinics. Welfare foods were also on sale.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

218 expectant mothers availed themselves of ante-natal care at the clinics at Abercregan, Cymmer, Blaengwynfi, Glyncorrwg and Croeserw. In all a total of 1116 attendances was registered at these clinics. Some 19 mothers re-attended clinics after confinement for post-natal examination.

ANTE-NATAL CLASS

A weekly ante-natal relaxation class was held at Croeserw Clinic for expectant mothers from the whole area. 20 mothers took advantage of this service and during the year made a total of 77 attendances.

HOME NURSING

The Home Nurses in the area visited 170 patients during the year and this involved them in a total of 5605 visits to homes. Of this number 2137 visits were made to people over the age of 65 and 95 visits to children under 5 years of age.

MIDWIFERY

In 1966 the midwives in the Urban District were present at 52 deliveries at homes.

B.C.G. VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

This protection is offered to children at school between the ages of thirteen and fourteen and last year 88 children attending Cymmer Afan Secondary School were vaccinated at school against this disease. A further 16 children who gave positive re-actions to skin testing were investigated at Neath Chest Clinic. One child was asked to return in 12 months', one in 3 months' and two in 6 months' time for further examination.

CHIROPODY.

Clinic sessions have now been extended to Cymmer, Blaengwynfi and Glynccorrwg, depending on demand for elderly or handicapped persons, and other special categories from the whole of the Urban area. Home Visits are made where the patient is unfit to attend clinic. Last year 89 persons were seen at clinic on 464 occasions and 35 cases on 188 occasions were seen at home.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This Service continued during the year and in order to meet the demand it was found necessary to employ 11 part-time Home Helps on a regular basis and an additional 10 Home Helps on a casual part-time basis.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Because of certain modifications in the recording and filing of School Medical Inspection Reports in the Divisional Health Office, it has not been possible this year to give the exact number of children who were medically examined as a routine measure in the Junior and Secondary Schools in the Urban District from those of the whole of Port Talbot and Glynccorrwg Division.

I am, however, pleased to be able to advise Council that the work of the department was carried out satisfactorily during the period under review.

Children found to have defects of vision are seen at Cymmer Clinic whilst those with orthopaedic or speech defects are appointed to school clinics in Port Talbot or, by arrangement with the Divisional Medical Officer, in Bridgend and Maesteg.

Dental clinic sessions are held at Blaengwynfi and Cymmer and during 1966, 556 attendances were made at these clinics by school children. During the same sessions expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school age children attended for dental treatment on 28 and 10 occasions respectively.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OR FEVERS.

The incidence and distribution of notified infectious diseases including tuberculosis is shown in the following table:-

	Glyn- corrwg	Cymmer	Aber- gwynfi	Total for 1966	Total for 1965	Total for 1964	Total for 1963	Total for 1962
Scarlet Fever	3	5	-	8	2	2	2	-
Measles	113	156	23	292	18	10	154	3
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	-	-	1	1	4	2	4	5
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	-	3	-	3	1	1	2	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-	2	60	5	13	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	11	-	-	11	5	14	-	-
TOTAL:	129	164	24	317	91	39	175	8

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Private Dwelling Inspections	-	503
Council House Inspections	-	102
Public Health Nuisances	-	256
Drainage	-	43
Factories	-	29
Public Conveniences	-	32
Disinfection	-	9
Disinfestation	-	13
Rodent Control	-	48
Dairies & Milk Supplies	-	5
Ice Cream Premises	-	25
Shops and Offices	-	410
Food Inspection	-	139
Water Supplies	-	51
Petroleum Stations	-	58
Miscellaneous	-	73

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Number of houses closed	-	55
Number of houses demolished (Unfit for human habitation)	-	5
Persons Displaced (from houses unfit for human habitation)	-	Nil
Families displaced (from houses unfit for human habitation)	-	Nil
Persons displaced from houses to be closed	-	93
Families displaced from houses to be closed	-	19
Parts of buildings closed: Number of houses	-	3
Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied after informal action by Local Authority (by owner)	-	23
After formal notice under Public Health Acts (by owner)	-	Nil

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) On 1st October, 1966, the supply of water to the area came under the control of the West Glamorgan Water Board, and consequently samples for Bacteriological analysis were taken by their Sampling Officers and the results passed on to this department.

This department however continued to submit samples for Bacteriological, Chemical and Radio Activity analysis.

During the twelve month period 194 samples of domestic water were submitted for Bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratories, Cardiff, 28 of which were found to be unsatisfactory. Repeat samples were taken from sources found to be unsatisfactory on initial analysis and these were of the required standard for a wholesome water supply.

Further samples of domestic water were submitted for Chemical and Radio Activity analysis. Of the 16 chemical samples submitted all were found to be satisfactory. The total beta activity of the radio activity samples ranged from 1 to 3 picocuries which is considered to be below the danger level of radio activity.

(b) Swimming Pools

Numerous samples were obtained from the swimming pool of the Cymmer Afan Comprehensive School, and in November after several unsatisfactory results were obtained, the Pool Attendant was requested to increase the amount of chlorine injected into the water. This proved to be successful and satisfactory results were obtained for the remainder of the year.

(c) The Municipal Open Air Pool at Croeserw was found to be satisfactory on bacteriological examination. This is fed from the Council's mains and is chlorinated.

RODENT CONTROL

Throughout the year Rodent Control was undertaken in an efficient manner, and full use was made of the operatives services by members of the general public. For a two week period in the summer a temporary labourer was engaged to assist your operative with the treatment of sewers which is undertaken each year.

While every effort is being made to control the multiplication of rodents, the operatives efforts are hampered considerably by the indiscriminate tipping of refuse, thus providing rodents with a food supply other than the poisoned bait laid by your operative.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1966

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				Agriculture
	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses (including Council Houses)	All other (including business premises)	Total of Columns (1) (2) and (3)	
1. Number of properties inspected during 1966 as a result of notification	22	87	53	162	-
2. Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats	17	68	50	135	-
(b) Mice	-	3	1	4	-
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act. Number of properties found to be infested by:-	5	48	23	76	-
(a) Rats	3	24	19	46	-
(b) Mice	1	10	1	12	-
4. Total number of properties inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) Number of such properties found to be infested by:-	168	563	482	1213	-
(a) Rats	4	4	3	11	-
(b) Mice	1	2	1	4	-
5. Total inspections carried out	195	688	558	1441	-
6. Total number of infested properties	26	111	75	212	-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

Frequent visits were made to premises where articles of food are exposed for sale, and advice on such matters as hygiene and stock rotation given to retailers when it was deemed necessary. Many retailers in the area, although at the disadvantage of occupying premises not of modern construction or design were only too eager to carry out the suggestions of this department, and a considerable amount of work was undertaken by individuals and companies to maintain their premises at the required standard.

Food Premises in the Urban Area

Grocery and Provision stores	-	20
Small (Parlour type) Sweet and General Shops	-	16
Fish and Chip Friers	-	4
Green Grocers	-	6
Cafe and Sweets	-	5
Butchers	-	6
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	-	2
Sausage making premises	-	4
Colliery Canteens	-	3
School Canteens	-	7

Foodstuffs Rejected as unfit for human consumption

60 packets of frozen fish	53 tins meat
31 packets of frozen meat	65 tins fruit
112 packets of frozen veg. and fruit	11 tin vegetable
4 chocolate eclairs	1 Swiss roll
3 Dairy sponges	36 boxes iced lollipops

The County Public Health Inspector obtained 46 samples of milk and one sample of ice cream during the year, all of which proved to be satisfactory. Four samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis by this department, all of which were classed as Grade 1.

There are two ice cream manufacturers in the area, and frequent inspections were made of their manufacturing plants and premises

LICENCED PREMISES

Routine visits were made to all licenced premises in the area and after consultation with the various breweries involved, works and redecoration at a number of premises were carried out. Again it was pleasing to note the co-operation of Licencees and Stewards in maintaining their premises in a clean and presentable condition.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Although some difficulty was encountered during the first year's implementation of this Act, the process of registration and initial inspection has now been completed. Throughout the year inspections were carried out in the normal course of shop and office inspections and again the full co-operation of occupiers was received.

Total Number of Registered Premises within the Urban Area

Offices	-	11
Retail Shops	-	41
Catering Establishments	-	9

HOUSING

During the twelve months under review the Local Authority constructed 97 units of dwellings throughout the area.

REFUSE TIPPING

The use of pit shafts for the tipping of refuse has been discontinued and is now concentrated at the surface tip at Glyncoerrwg.

PETROLEUM LICENCES

Eight licences were issued to Petroleum Stations in the area after being passed as satisfactory by the Fire Authority.

A new installation was opened at Croeserw during the year but no application for a licence was received at this Office and as far as could be ascertained the proprietor had ceased trading towards the latter half of the year.

CINEMA LICENCES

Licences were issued to the Workman's Hall and Institutes at Blaengwynfi and Glyncoerrwg for the showing of films during the year.

SLAUGHTERMANS LICENCES

Four licences were issued to individuals for the purpose of slaughtering. These being past holders of the respective licence.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

No animals were slaughtered in the area during the 12 month period. The Table which is normally included in my Report is, therefore, omitted on this occasion.

EXPLOSIVE ACTS 1875 and 1923

Licences for the storage of explosives were issued to the National Coal Board for the three collieries in the area.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health - 1962 (Including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Procecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	60	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	6	6	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	2	4	-	-
TOTAL	14	70	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

	Number of cases in which defects were found:		To H.M. Inspec- tor	By H.M. Inspect- or	Number of cases where prosecutions were instituted
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>			
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (including offences <u>not</u> relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

Councillor G.G. Davies, at the end of his term of office as Chairman of the Council, submitted the following Report on the work carried out in the Urban District Council during his Stewardship, and he has kindly agreed for this to be included and I have pleasure in doing so below:-

HOUSING

CAPITAL SCHEMES

During the past year or so we have been building an industrial type of house designed by Gee Walker & Slater Limited and ourselves, known as the Arcal, and also an industrial house produced by Messrs. Simms, Sons & Cooke Limited.

The Arcal houses have been of 2 bedroom - 4 persons; 3 bedroom - 4 persons; and indeed, for the first time, which must be unique, as a Local Authority, we have commenced on 40 detached houses which are to full Parker-Morris standards. The Arcal houses and the industrial houses only fail to be to full Parker-Morris standards by one or two minor items.

The Arcal house has been designed with Central Heating, etc., so as to offset the problems associated with condensation, etc., and which has proved successful.

At the end of the current year you will have provided 279 new houses to almost full Parker-Morris standards, complete with solid fuel central heating. This, in my opinion, is a remarkable achievement and shows the initiative and courage of you as a Council, and so keep in the fore-front of improved standards of housing, whilst recognising, of course, that such has to be contained within economic limits so as to ensure that the rents are not impossible for the individual to pay.

The 279 houses represent a capital expenditure of approximately £726,658. 0. 0d.

I am sure you will appreciate like myself that this capital work is only one facet of that which the Council has undertaken in houses during the past few years and has been carried out entirely within the limited staff of our own Clerk and Surveyor's Department, and no professional Consultants have been engaged, and which may otherwise have added to the capital cost by possibly about £40,000. 0. 0d.

In addition to the foregoing the Clerk/Surveyor's Department prepared a scheme for the re-development of Abercragan, not only so as to maintain its present population but indeed to increase it about $2\frac{1}{2}$ times. This scheme, which it is estimated, may cost about £1,200,000. 0. 0d. was given wide publicity and coverage both on television and the press and provoked considerable public comment. The plans with the report upon the proposal was publicly displayed for inspection. Negotiations are proceeding with the Planning Authority upon the Council's application for Planning Permission to carry out the re-development proposals.

The examination of the Council's proposals are now in an advanced stage and I may say that after consultation with the Clerk/Surveyor, it seems that the result thereof may prove favourable to the Council. The Public Health Inspector is busily engaged on preparing information to enable the Council to declare this area to be a Clearance Area so that the Council may proceed on the assumption that Planning Permission will be received, to obtain a Compulsory Purchase Order.

Planning Permission has been obtained for the re-development of Tunnel Terrace and Gwynfi Street, Blaengwynfi, which has now been declared a Clearance Area, it is hoped that the Council will be in a position to seek a Compulsory Purchase Order within the next month.

Confirmation of a Clearance Order has also been sought of the Secretary of State for Wales with regard to 16 houses at Norton Terrace, Glyncoerrwg, and in connection with which a Public Inquiry is to be held in July.

In consultation and with the assistance of the District Valuer negotiations have been satisfactorily concluded for the acquisition of about 78.85 acres of land to the east of the existing Croeserw Estate, and to the rear of the Council Offices. This land will accommodate about 700 to 800 houses and which will ensure that the Council for many years to come, will have adequate land available for housing and other purposes. The actual purchase of this land, with the approval of the Secretary of State for Wales, has been deferred until the negotiations in respect of Abercregan have been concluded.

It is the policy of the Planning Authority and condition of approval by the Welsh Office to the building of new houses, that garage accommodation must be available, indeed, the Planning Authority speak in terms of one garage per dwelling.

At the present time we are providing under Contract 53 garages, 37 at Croeserw and 16 at Glyncoerrwg. When these garages have been completed it means that we will have erected 112 garages. In addition, a parking space has been provided at Croeserw and it is the policy of the Council to provide such parking spaces and garages which may be necessary to conform to new standards of housing development.

Unfit Houses

As you are aware, we have a number of unfit houses within the Urban District which are receiving our attention. Reports are being produced by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector as a consequence of which a Clearance Order has been sought in respect of 16 houses at Norton Terrace, Glyncoerrwg, 103 houses have been declared to be Clearance Area at Tunnel Terrace and Gwynfi Street, Blaengwynfi and a survey of 141 houses at Abercregan to provide sufficient evidence to declare that area to be a Clearance Area.

Within the foregoing, 60 houses have been included either as individual Closing or Demolition Orders.

The total effect of the above on completion means that in the past year 260 houses are being dealt with, with a view to rehousing the displaced families. These problems will receive the constant attention of the Council until completely solved.

Housing Maintenance

During the year the Council in common with many Authorities up and down the Country, have been faced with condensation problems, and one of the jobs of the newly constituted Repairs Sub Committee has been to investigate with the Clerk/Surveyor what may be done to reduce this problem.

After very careful consideration of the position, new timber floors have been incorporated in ground floor flats where the problem was prevalent and which have, to a considerable extent, alleviated the condensation difficulties.

In addition, at the request of tenants and the approval of the Welsh Office, 41 flats are being provided with solid fuel central heating. To date 19 installations have been completed and have proved highly successful. I am sure you will appreciate that at the end of this year the central heating included in new housing schemes and that of the existing flats, will mean that the Council will have 320 houses centrally heated.

It is not intended to stop at this figure but indeed to expand so as to include other flats which would like the same facilities under the same conditions of increased rents.

During the past year we completed the improvement scheme connected with the 50 houses at Heol-y-Glyn at an expenditure of about £36,827.

A commencement has been made on replacing old plumbing and sanitary equipment in the 1919 houses at Duffryn Rhondda with new baths etc. To date 26 have been completed. This improvement, of course, will be extended to other 1919 houses in the area.

At the commencement of the year the Housing Committee of the Council appointed a Housing Repairs Sub Committee who have met on several occasions for the purpose of examining problems associated with housing maintenance. The work and contribution of this Committee has proved most valuable in assisting with problems herewith, having particular regard to what extent the Council may incur expenditure.

HIGHWAYS

Since the Highways Repair Squad was set up to deal with the provisions of the Highways (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1961, there is no doubt that very much greater attention is being paid to the standard of roads and footpaths within the district. A number of roads and footpaths have been re-surfaced. It is hardly necessary for me to report upon these, as full details are given each month by the Clerk/Surveyor to the General Purposes Committee of the Council.

I would like to refer, however, to the Council having agreed at the commencement of my year of office, to progressively take over unadopted roads and back lanes within the Urban District, but curtailing the expenditure each year to the equivalent of a 6d. rate. This expenditure the Clerk/Surveyor is endeavouring to share reasonably each year throughout the Urban District until such time as all roads are done. We have decided to leave to the discretion of the Clerk/Surveyor which roads will be done each year within the limits of the expenditure, recognising that in the eyes of the public, all unadopted roads are in equal need of repair.

This year's programme has been carried out satisfactorily and work is proceeding to use the monies available for the current year.

SEWERS

The usual high standard of maintenance has been carried out on your main trunk sewer including the pumping station and joint sea outfall at Margam, but which does not require any special comment from me.

WATER

As you know our water works and distribution system, provisionally owned by the Council, was vested in the West Glamorgan Water Board from the 1st October, 1966. We did not consider this to be an improvement as our water works and distribution system had always proved adequate and reasonably efficient, but nevertheless there was no alternative but to comply with the order.

The effect of the take over of the Council's Water Works since 1st October, 1966, reflected in the Water Rate for the year 1967 - 68 being increased from 1/-d. to 1/10d. in the £.

PARKS

This is a matter to which we have been giving our attention for the past few years and we are unanimously conscious of the need to provide adequate amenities for the inhabitants of the Urban District. The physical topography of the area does not provide any natural playing fields and consequently the Council are faced with high expenditure to construct sufficient playing fields to meet the general needs. This is particularly noticeable at the Croeserw Housing Estate, where by the end of the current year, there will be approximately 3,000 inhabitants without a single playing field.

Whilst the Clerk/Surveyor has prepared a scheme for the provision of a park at Croeserw which will include a football field, tennis courts, childrens' playground and pavilion, and indeed for the extension of the existing Cymmer recreation ground so as to provide a second field thereat, it is necessary to obtain approximately 25,000 cu. yds. of hardcore or other suitable fill so as to construct the level surface on which the facilities may be provided. An examination of this problem is being carefully made at the present time so as to explore how the proposals may be economically feasible.

The Council, in consultation with the Welsh Office, has engaged Consultants to examine the Duffryn Rhondda Colliery tip which, if there is a need to remove this dangerous hazard, may be used as fill as afore mentioned.

At Blaengwynfi and Glyncoerrwg only one playing field is available which is hopelessly inadequate to meet the needs of its inhabitants, but a second field is being provided at Glyncoerrwg by the utilization of household refuse in a semi controlled form of tipping. The tipping of refuse in this way is undesirable and has caused considerable adverse comment etc., but nevertheless sufficient has now been done to form an area sufficient for the second field. Work is now proceeding on the covering up and burning of surplus paper and cardboard, and the preparation of the surface in readiness to receive ash and soil. It is anticipated that by the end of the summer the second field will have been soiled and seeded which will prove of considerable benefit to the inhabitants of Glyncoerrwg and will have been carried out as an economical proposition which otherwise may have been costly.

At Blaengwynfi the problem is very much more acute but nevertheless, every effort will be made to examine what may be done to provide an additional playing field even though the Council may be faced with a high expenditure. No doubt you will wish to provide the same amenities at Blaengwynfi as it is anticipated will now be provided in other parts of the Urban District even if the Council have to meet high costs.

As you are aware, preliminary discussions are taking place with the Duffryn Rhondda and Cynonville Miners' Welfare Institute to see what may possibly be done in connection with the field at Cynonville owned by the Institute and which is not being used.

Whilst the Childrens' playground was agreed to by the Council at Cynonville and Heol-y-Glyn, some difficulty has arisen on the acquisition of the land at Cynonville which has caused work to be stopped for the time being.

I have no comment to offer in respect of the maintenance of the existing recreation facilities and swimming pool other than to say that I have been advised by the Clerk/Surveyor that he has been exploring, in his leisure time, the various possibilities of covering the swimming pool which is now unused for 8 months of the year.

CEMETERY

As you know, in conjunction with the Port Talbot Borough, Maesteg U.D.C. and Porthcawl U.D.C., we have formed a Joint Committee for the purpose of providing a joint Crematorium at Margam, Port Talbot. All the formalities in connection with the proposal have been completed and work is to proceed very soon.

At our cemetery, work is proceeding on the provision of a tomb with suitable surrounds where ashes may be brought and deposited if such is the wish of the relatives. This work will be completed very shortly.

The cemetery is well maintained and needs little other comment.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Whilst the refuse collection is being carried out reasonably efficient and we are now using a more modern type of vehicle, there is still the problem of disposal. Refuse disposal at the moment is taking place at the Ynyscorrwg site, Glyncoerrwg, which is being utilized in the construction of the second playing field, but which of course is giving rise to adverse comment and in itself is an undesirable method. Even so it is better than the practice hitherto being carried out by the Council over very many years when refuse was disposed crudely and in connection herewith, several sites were being utilized simultaneously. In more recent years pit shafts proved most economical and a satisfactory solution, but this is no longer possible. The Council, therefore, must consider what steps other than crude or semi controlled tipping to satisfactorily dispose of refuse.

In making this comment, I appreciate that the method employed by the Council is common in the Principality and very few authorities, much stronger financially, have attempted to do otherwise. This does not mean, of course, that we must not be prepared to face up to a heavier rate burden in an attempt to provide a satisfactory solution.

The Clerk/Surveyor's Department are examining these possibilities.

PLANNING

Building Regulations

As you are aware, the Building Regulations produced with the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works, replaced as and from the 1st February 1966, the Building Bye Laws previously published by each individual Local Authority. We have the duty to ensure that the Building Regulations are complied with as is the case with development control and each month we receive for consideration reports from the Clerk/Surveyor upon applications under both the Planning and Building Regulations.

It is hardly necessary for me to comment on the general administrative work undertaken by the Council.

MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE

The Clerk/Surveyor produced a scheme for the provision of Meals on Wheels throughout the Urban District and which we accepted. This scheme was also approved by the Glamorgan County Council for the purpose of accepting that they should contribute 50% towards the cost of introducing the scheme and providing the meals. The first meal was delivered on the 10th October, 1966.

An extension with equipment was provided to the kitchen at the Croeserw Community Centre. In addition, vans were purchased. Appropriate staff was engaged. This is a service which has been long overdue and has only been made possible by the Glamorgan County Council agreeing that they should share the costs involved.

I should like to take this opportunity of referring to the excellent voluntary work and assistance given by the Urban District Branch of the Womens' Royal Voluntary Service, who have continuously provided a rota of helpers for the purpose of assisting in the actual delivery of the meals, to the homes of the recipients. This has helped to reduce the expenditure which otherwise may have been incurred.

INDUSTRIAL SITES

We set up an Industrial Committee whose work it was to produce a brochure illustrating sites available in the Urban District and to take such steps as may be necessary to encourage industry into the urban area. In connection herewith, the Clerk/Surveyor produced a detailed report in the form of a brochure upon the sites available within the urban district and which was accepted by the Council and submitted to the Board of Trade.

The Committee have met on several occasions and have met representatives of the Board of Trade and the Development Corporation for Wales. We received a visit from Mr. George Thomas, M.P. who was then Minister of State for Wales, and was accompanied by Mr. John Morris M.P. The need for industry to be brought into the Urban District was stressed by the Council. We have also arranged for suitable advertisements to be included in press publications, indicating sites available within the Urban District.

This is a matter upon which the Council will continue, to the best of their ability, to explore every possible step to encourage industry into the urban district.

RATE ARREARS AND RENT ARREARS

The above items have received careful examination by the Finance Committee of the Council during the past few months. It is hardly necessary for me to report in detail hereto, because reference has been included each month in the Treasurer's Report.

It is hoped that the steps we are now taking to reduce the above arrears will prove successful.

GENERAL

In conclusion, it is hardly necessary for me to refer to the wide and varied other functional and administrative matters for which we, as a Council, are responsible and which we have dealt with during the past year, because you are already familiar therewith.

You know, of course, that I could have elaborated to a very much greater degree on items under the various headings of this report, but I have considered it better to refer briefly to those which have commanded special interest during the year. I am sure you must feel like myself, reasonably satisfied with the manner in which many important matters have been prosecuted.

Councillor G.G. Davies,
Chairman of the Council.

